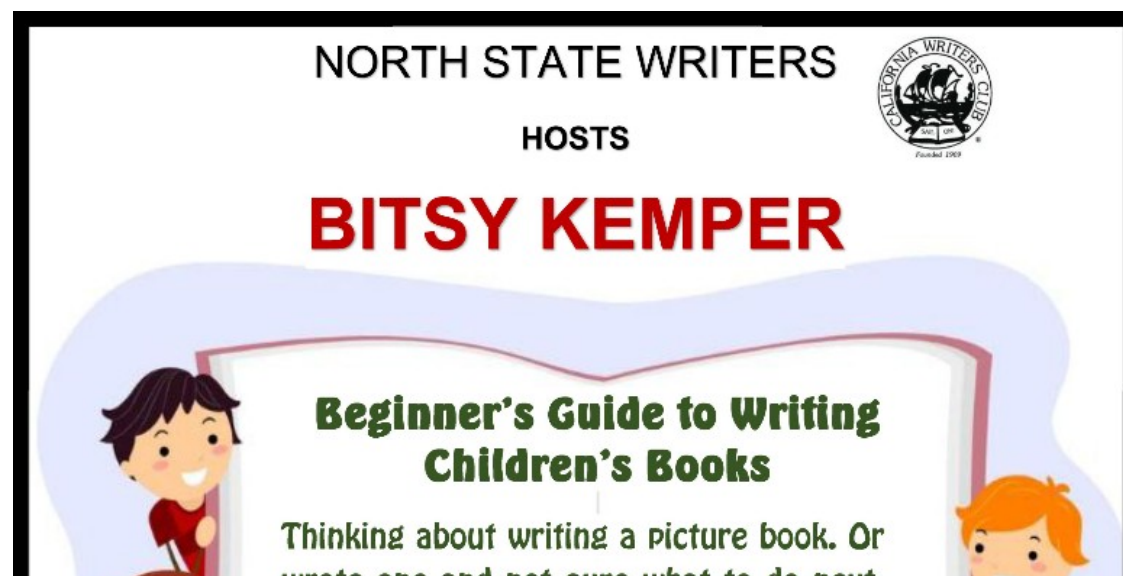
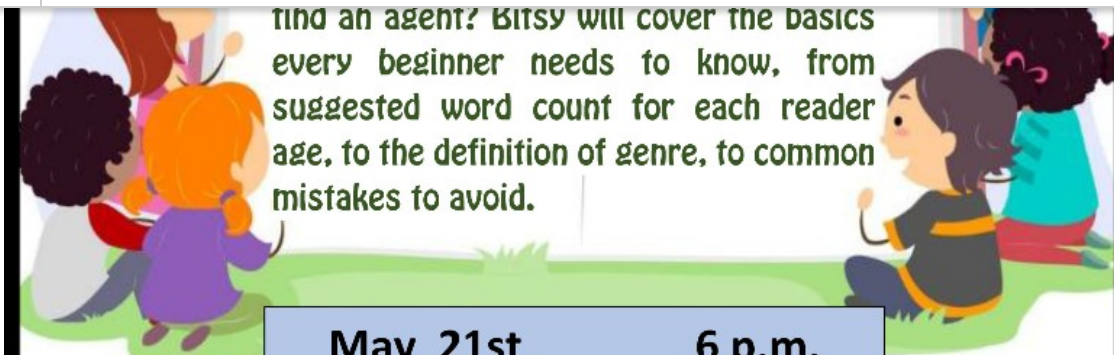


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Newsletter of North State Writers (NSW), a Branch of the *California Writers Club*
MAY, 2018


Join us on Monday May 21, 2018 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 554 Rio Lindo Ave, Chico, CA, 6:00 pm social time, 6:30 p.m. meeting



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Find an agent? Bitsy will cover the basics every beginner needs to know, from suggested word count for each reader age, to the definition of genre, to common mistakes to avoid.

May 21st 6 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Hall
554 Rio Lindo Ave, Chico



Bitsy Kemper has authored 16 children's books and has 6 new e-books with the "Bedtime Stories" iPhone app. She has been interviewed on CNN and on TV gigs in Sacramento, Phoenix, Portland and Albuquerque. She has co-written in papers across the country and literally hundreds of magazines and newspapers articles, including PC Week, Working Mother and Investor's Business Daily. www.BitsyKemper.com

Notice of Still Photography, Video/Audio Recording: North State Writers is providing this notice to inform members and guests at our events that Still Photography will be taking place and Video and/or Audio Recording may be taking place. By entering the venue, members and guests are granting permission that their likeness may be used for publicity purposes.

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Characters

Sunday, July 15, 2018 - Heidi Nalley - Special Workshop-
Successful Self-Publishing

July 16, 2018 - NSW summer picnic

TIP OF THE QUILL

If you want to be a writer, you must do two things
above all others: read a lot and write a lot. —
Stephen King



NSW NEWS

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP - Click here to
link to the renewal form and
instructions**

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SUCCESSFUL SELF-PUBLISHING

This Workshop teaches you how to become a self-published author on Amazon in one day! And...how to maximize sales by creating successful Book Covers - Book Descriptions - Book Titles - Author Bios - and much more!



July 15th
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

OXFORD SUITES
2035 Business Lane
Chico, CA

NSW Members \$65
Non-members \$95

Seats are limited. Get your tickets by calling (530) 864-1186 or email chaseca310@gmail.com.

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APRIL SPEAKER - DAWN MATTOX

NSW's own talented Dawn Mattox spoke to us about using apps during our writing process to makes things easier and more fun.

Some of the apps she recommended were:

Online Generators

- **Random Story Title Generator**
- **Fantasy Name Generator**

Writing Tools

- **Scrivener**
- **EveryWriter**
- **Grammarly** or **ProWritingAid**: subscription services for self-editing
- **Voice Recorder**: fast note taking, search "Voice Recorder" for similar apps

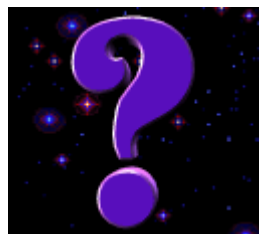
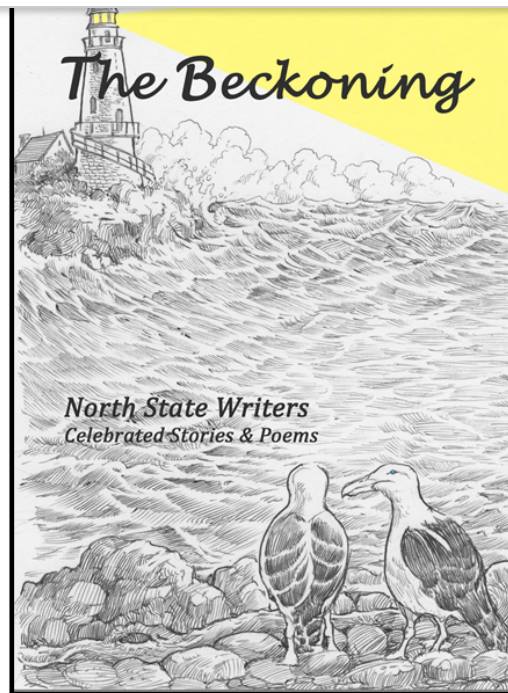
There were many more apps she covered in her presentation and if you would like to receive a copy of her handouts and be added to her author mailing list please email Dawn at MattoxDawn@gmail.com

THE BECKONING

North State Writers 2018 Anthology
is now available on [Amazon](#)

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down, relax and enter the world of a devoted confused husband, stalking killers and an excursion into the life of the disabled. *The Beckoning* introduces you, the reader, to a desert world, a she-wolf and a trinket from a woman's past. Journey into tales of knights battling vicious foes, ghosts coming alive and learning lessons from the wisdom of animals. Between the covers of *The Beckoning*, there is something for everyone.



WHO AM I

Robert Jordan

Can you identify this fictional character, what book he is in and who wrote it?



Blue Room Theatre LiveWord

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If you haven't turned in your submission yet, there's still time as we are extending the deadline. We would love the opportunity to review your submission and to have your work come alive using this format.

Sometimes the thought of hearing your work read on a stage can be intimidating. Your submission can be an excerpt from something you have already written such as a chapter in your book, a short story, essay or a poem.

We have no set minimum, but have an approximate maximum length of 3,000 words translates to about fifteen minutes of spoken material. If needed please include a brief introduction that sets the scene and establishes characters for the audience.

Please send all entries or inquiries to northstatewriters@gmail.com.

Deadline for submissions is extended



Halloween Story Contest!

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Have a frightening fiction or nonfiction tale to tell? Have a ghost or funny Halloween story or scary memory to share? Enter the North State Writers Halloween Short Story contest by June 30th & win cash.

1 st Prize	\$100
2 nd Prize	50
3 rd Prize	25
3 Honorable Mentions	

Short Story Details

- Open to all CWC Members (\$12), Non-members (\$20), & Students (\$15)
- Word Limit: 2500 or less
- **Deadline: June 30th**
- **Restrictions:** Must Be Original work
Multiple Entries Accepted (separate fee for each entry)

Submission Guidelines: www.northstatewriters.com (click on the contest tab)

**Contest Winners will be Recognized
At the NSW '2018' Family Picnic in July!**

All entries will be eligible for possible entry into a North State Writers Challenge Short Story edition. Noteworthy stories for publication in the fall. Author's permission will be sought prior to publication.

7 TIPS TO WRITE A GOOD CHILDREN'S BOOK

Our speaker for May, Bitsy Kemper, will be discussing children's books. I located an article from [Sarah Maizes and Today.com](#) that does a good job of breaking down the topic. The following tips are excerpts from her article. Please click the link to view the entire story. These tips apply quite well to all genres and should assist you in developing a list of questions for our speaker.

1. Define a target market. Pick an age group and write a relatable story for them. Is it for young children (target ages 2-6); Middle graders (target ages 8-11); or Young Adult (target 12+).
2. Choose a relatable theme? Does it have wide appeal? Is it from a child's point of view – or at least about an issue that's important to a child's world? If a child relates to your story and sees themselves in it, they'll want to read it over and over.

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4. Don't let your story be preachy. Your story should be subtle enough to convey a message without the moral being "in your face." Kids can smell morals. And they smell like Brussels sprouts.

5. 'Show', don't 'tell'. The craft of writing picture books involves telling your story in as few — and using the most potent — words possible. Keep it short and keep it "to the point."

6. Make your story different.

7. Good picture books aren't written overnight. Acclaimed author/illustrator Mem Fox put it best when she said "Writing for children is like writing "War and Peace," in haiku."

You might also like ["10 Reasons You Should Write a Childrens' Book"](#) from Huffington Post.

Conferences and Workshops

MAY

All About Books Book Festival

May 12, 2018

Paradise CA

<http://chocolatefest.us/events/all-about-books/>

At the 13th Annual Paradise Chocolate Fest – In Collaboration with North State Writers

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San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/acorn-class-growing-your-writing-ideas-may-12-2018>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute Library and San Francisco Writers
Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.

Writing Comics and Graphic Novels with Trina Robbins

May 19, 2018

San Francisco CA

<https://www.milibrary.org/events/comics-and-graphic-novels-trina-robbins-may-19-2018>

<https://sfwriters.org/mil-classes>

Class co-sponsored by Mechanics Institute Library and San Francisco Writers
Conference/San Francisco Writers Foundation.

JUNE

Sacramento Black Book Fair

June 1-2, 2018

Sacramento CA

<https://www.sacramentoblackbookfair.com/>

"Fifth Annual Sacramento Black Book Fair"

CWA Writers Conference

June 7-9, 2018

Houston TX

http://catwriters.com/wp_meow/

"Cat Writers' Association Annual Conference & Awards Banquet"

The Literary Stage at San Mateo Country Fair

June 9-17, 2018

San Mateo CA

<http://cwc-peninsula.org/the-literary-stage/>

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[RSS](#)**Mystery Writers Key West Fest**

June 16-18

Key West FL

<http://mysteryfestkeywest.com/>**Santa Barbara Writer's Conference**

June 17-22, 2018

Santa Barbara, CA

<http://www.sbwriters.com/>**Lost Coast Writers Retreat**

June 20-29, 2018

http://lostcoastwritersretreat.org/Lost_Coast_Writers_Retreat_Cooperative/Home.html**Annual Greater Los Angeles Writers Conference**

June 22-24, 2018

Los Angeles CA

<http://www.wcwriters.com/aglawc/>

"20th Conference For Writers"

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